

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>Inventory No:</b>           | EAS.86  |
| <b>Historic Name:</b>          | Brown, Capt. Parker House   |
| <b>Common Name:</b>            |   |
| <b>Address:</b>                | 1285 Massasoit Rd   |
| <b>City/Town:</b>              | Eastham   |
| <b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>   | North Eastham   |
| <b>Local No:</b>               | 04-250A   |
| <b>Year Constructed:</b>       | r 1820  |
| <b>Architect(s):</b>           |   |
| <b>Architectural Style(s):</b> | Federal   |
| <b>Use(s):</b>                 | Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House  |
| <b>Significance:</b>           | Agriculture; Architecture   |
| <b>Area(s):</b>                |   |
| <b>Designation(s):</b>         |   |
| <b>Building Materials(s):</b>  | Roof: Cedar Shingle<br>Wall: Wood Shingle; Wood<br>Foundation: Brick; Poured Concrete |



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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FORM B - BUILDING

P1. NEAST  
EAS.86

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's  
Number

04/250A

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

Form Number

86

Town

Eastham

(neighborhood or village)

1285 Massasoit Road

ic Name

Present Residential

Original "

f Construction Early 19th C.,  
Pre-1830

See Bibliography\*

Form Center-chimney, 3/4 Cape Cod  
House Form

ect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick & Poured Concrete

Wall/Trim Shingles

Roof Cedar Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures  
1 barn/garage, 1 shed/barn, a  
cottage/office

Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition Good

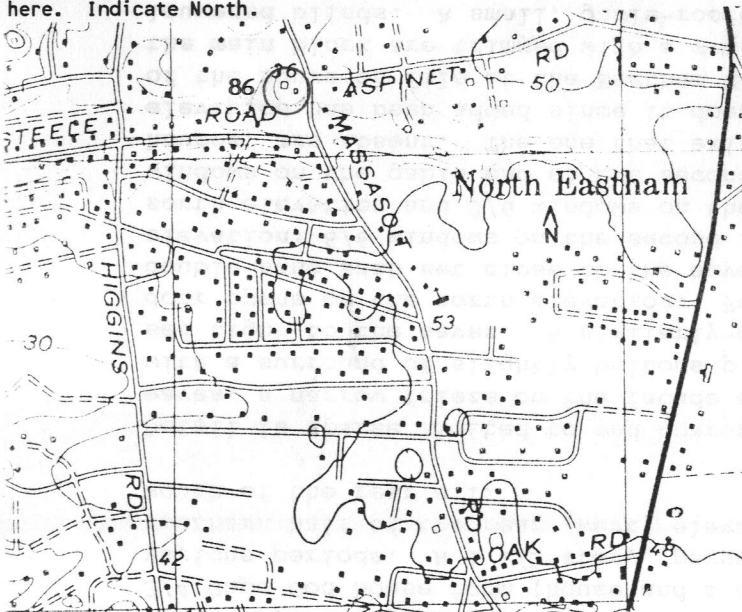
Moved X no \_\_\_ yes Date

Acreage .76 Acres

Setting Located in a moderately-settled,  
rural area opposite the T-intersection of  
Aspinet and Massasoit Roads.



here. Indicate North.



Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej  
and Sanford Johnson  
Organization: Commonweal Collaborative

Date: August 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

## BUILDING FORM

1285 Massasoit Road

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION      See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This 1 1/2-story, rectangular, center-chimney, 4 x 3-bay, ship's bow roofed, 3/4 Cape Cod house form (house and a half) has been expanded by additions of various periods. A 1 1/2-story, perpendicularly-oriented ell projects off the southern half of the rear (west) elevation. A modern sun porch extends to the south of the rear ell.

Detail is sparse limited to end boards, boxed, plain cornice set close to the eaves, a narrow frieze on the facade and a main entry of 6-panel, wooden door with a surround of slightly bulbous pilasters and a 5-light, straight transom set tight to the eaves. A similarly-detailed, secondary entry with a 4-panel door opens on the north elevation. Fenestration varies to include 9/6, double-hung sash set close to the eaves on the facade and rear (west) elevation; 6/6 windows on the second floor; 9/6 sash on the first floor of the south elevation and 9/6 windows on the rear ell. The tiny, fixed-sash, corner windows on the gable end of the second story, typical to antique Cape Cod houses, are absent. The one that exists on the west end of the south elevation has been added since it does not appear on an historical photograph of the house on file at the Eastham Historical Society Archives. Windows on the main block are trimmed with a small shelf and have appropriately-sized louvered blinds. A small, gable-roofed dormer is located on the south slope of the rear ell.

Also on site are a free-standing, 1 1/2-story, 1-bay barn/garage with a shed-roofed, side bay; a 1 1/2-story shed/barn and 3 x 3-bay, gable-roofed, Cape Cod cottage used as an office.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE   X   See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Massasoit Road was developed during the Federal Period (1775-1830). By the end of the Federal Period, Methodists had established a campground near Campground Road off Massasoit Road. This center for summer religious retreats lasted from 1830 to 1862 when the camp moved to Yarmouth. By 1831, one of Eastham's five schools and many residences were located on Massasoit Road.

It is likely that many of the residents were involved in agriculture. Grains were an early cash crop in Eastham and later, asparagus and turnips became more common. Husbandry and fishing were also important sources of income for Massasoit Road residents. By 1901, at least seven farmers were living on Massasoit Road. There were also a clerk, lighthouse keeper, laborer and a grocer. A provisions store was located on the corner of Oak and Massasoit Roads. By the twentieth century, the road had become an important way from Orleans through Eastham to Wellfleet. Seasonal residents had begun building summer homes and cottages by the Early Modern Period.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES   X   See continuation sheet.

     Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;  
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

According to local historian Howard Quinn, the house at 1285 Massasoit Road may have been built in the early 1800's by Captain Parker Brown (b. 1779; d. July 11, 1856), the son of David and Tabitha Brown. A building is represented at the site on the 1831 Hales map. Parker Brown was married to Rachel Atwood (d. 1861). He served as a town selectman in 1828 and raised several children in the house, including Hannah Brown. Mrs. P. Brown's name appears on the property on the 1858 Walling map. Their daughter, Hannah (b. October 12, 1812 or 1816?; d. June 5, 1893), married Warren Richard Higgins who died in 1862 or 1866. After her husband's death, Hannah returned to her childhood home. Her presence is noted on the 1880 Walker map. She was assessed in 1883 for a barn, an outbuilding, a cow, woodland, unimproved land and tilled land in addition to her house, indicating she had a small farm.

It is unclear who acquired the house upon her death in 1892. The house is not noted on the 1907 map of Eastham. The next owners may have been Grace and Harvey Hopkins who were poultry farmers in residence until 1923 when they sold to James and Carolyn Fulton. The Fultons owned the property until 1964 when they sold to Katherine Mace.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

\*House File 1285 Massasoit Road, Eastham Historical Society Archives.

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\*Hales, John G. Map of the Town of Eastham, 1830.

Resident and Business Directory of Cape Cod, 1901.

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Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker & Co., 1880.

\_\_\_\_\_. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston Walker Lithographer and Publishing Co., 1908.

Wallings, Henry F. Map of Eastham. Boston: D. R. Smith Co., 1858.



